

3. (Four Times Amended) A cell adhesion modulating agent that:
- (a) comprises at least seven consecutive amino acid residues of the formula:
- Trp-Lys/Arg-Aaa-Baa-Ser/Ala-Tyr/Phe-Caa-Gly (SEQ ID NO:1)

wherein Aaa, Baa and Caa indicate amino acid residues that are present in a naturally occurring claudin; Lys/Arg is an amino acid that is lysine or arginine; Ser/Ala is an amino acid that is serine or alanine; and Tyr/Phe is an amino acid that is tyrosine or phenylalanine; and

(b) contains no more than 50 consecutive amino acid residues present within the claudin.

4. (Twice Amended) A cell adhesion modulating agent that:
- (a) comprises at least eight consecutive amino acid residues of the formula:

Trp-Lys/Arg-Aaa-Baa-Ser/Ala-Tyr/Phe-Caa-Gly (SEQ ID NO:1)

wherein Aaa, Baa and Caa indicate amino acid residues that are present in a naturally occurring claudin; Lys/Arg is an amino acid that is lysine or arginine; Ser/Ala is an amino acid that is serine or alanine; and Tyr/Phe is an amino acid that is tyrosine or phenylalanine; and

(b) contains no more than 50 consecutive amino acid residues present within the claudin.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendment, the accompanying declaration and the following remark is respectfully requested. Claims 2-20, 27-43, 46-49, 52-55, and 58-61 are pending in the application, of which claims 7-20, 33-34, 38-43, 46-49, 52-55, and 58-61 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to non-elected subject matter. Claims 2-4 have been amended to more specifically define certain aspects of the present invention. The phrase "that are present within a naturally occurring claudin" in amended claims 2-4 may be found, *e.g.*, page 16, lines 28-30. No new matter has been added.